

REMARKS

Applicants request favorable reconsideration and allowance of the subject application in view of the following remarks.

Claims 1, 17, 34-52, 56, 60, 64, 68, 78-84 and 90-92 are now presented for examination. Claims 1, 17, 34, 35, 40, 48, 56, 60, 64, 68, 78, 84 and 90-92 have been amended to define still more clearly what Applicants regard as their invention, in terms which distinguish over the art of record. . Claims 1, 17, 34, 35, 48, 52, 56, 60, 64, 68, 78, 84 and 90-92 are the only independent claims. The claim status identifier for claim 40 has been corrected to read --Currently Amended -- and the listing of amended claims has been changed to include Claim 40.

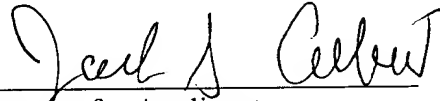
For the reasons set forth in the Amendment filed August 29, 2005, Applicants submit that the present invention, as recited in independent claims 1, 17, 34, 35, 48, 52, 56, 60, 64, 68, 78, 84 and 90-92 , is patentably defined over the art of record, whether that art is taken individually or in combination.

Dependent claims 36-47, 49-51 and 79-83 also should be deemed allowable, in their own right, for defining other patentable features of the present invention in addition to those recited in their respective independent claims. Further individual consideration of these dependent claims is requested.

Applicants further submits that the instant application remains in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and an early Notice of Allowance are requested.

Applicants' attorney, Scott D. Malpede, may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should be directed to our address listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Jack S. Cubert", written over a horizontal line.

Attorney for Applicants

Jack S. Cubert

Registration No. 24,245

FITZPATRICK, CELLA, HARPER & SCINTO
30 Rockefeller Plaza
New York, New York 10112-3801
Facsimile: (212) 218-2200

JSC/tmm